

Redistricting 2002

Explanation of the Changes in House and Senate Districts in Alaska

Every ten years, after the federal census, the states must redraw their legislative election districts to make the districts equal in population. During the intervening years some districts have gained population and others have lost population. The process of drawing new election district boundaries is called redistricting. In Alaska, Article VI of the state constitution grants the power to draw new election districts to a five-member independent board.

The constitution permits only single-member districts, and specifies several other requirements: each house district is required to contain a population as near as practicable to the quotient obtained by dividing the population of the state by forty - the number of election districts; each house district must be compact; and each house district must contain an integrated socioeconomic area. Senate districts are composed of two contiguous house districts. Also, the U.S. Voting Rights Act requires that election districts must be drawn in a way that does not discriminate against minority voters.

On June 18, 2001, the Alaska Redistricting Board adopted a plan that established election districts for the decade ending in 2010. A number of lawsuits were filed against the plan. On February 1, 2002, the Superior Court ruled that Districts 12 and 16 of the June 18 plan were unconstitutional. The state Supreme Court entertained petitions of review of that decision. It ruled on March 21, 2002, that in the board's June 18 plan, District 16 violated the compactness requirement, that deviations of population in the Anchorage-area districts needed to be reconsidered, that the deviation in District 40 was invalid, that district 5 was not compact, and that the board should reconsider districts 12 and 32. The court otherwise affirmed the orders of the Superior Court. On April 13, 2002, the board unanimously adopted an amended final plan, and on April 25, issued a revised proclamation. On May 24, 2002, the state Supreme Court upheld the final amended redistricting plan.

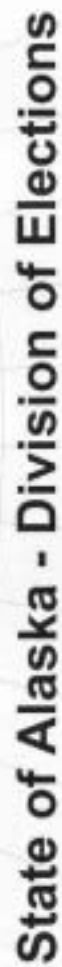
The redistricting plan requires that elections be held in 17 of the state's 20 senate districts this year rather than in 10 (or half) of the districts. The three senate districts not electing senators this year are Districts A, K, and T. Candidates are to run for election in all 40 house districts.

There is a long history of litigation in state courts over previous Alaska redistricting plans. Every plan since statehood has been challenged.

Please see the redistricting map as adopted and proclaimed in 2002 by the Redistricting Board. A table describing new house and senate districts follows.

YOUR HOUSE AND SENATE DISTRICT ARE PRINTED ON YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION CARD. FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR HOUSE AND SENATE DISTRICT, PLEASE CALL YOUR REGIONAL ELECTIONS OFFICE.

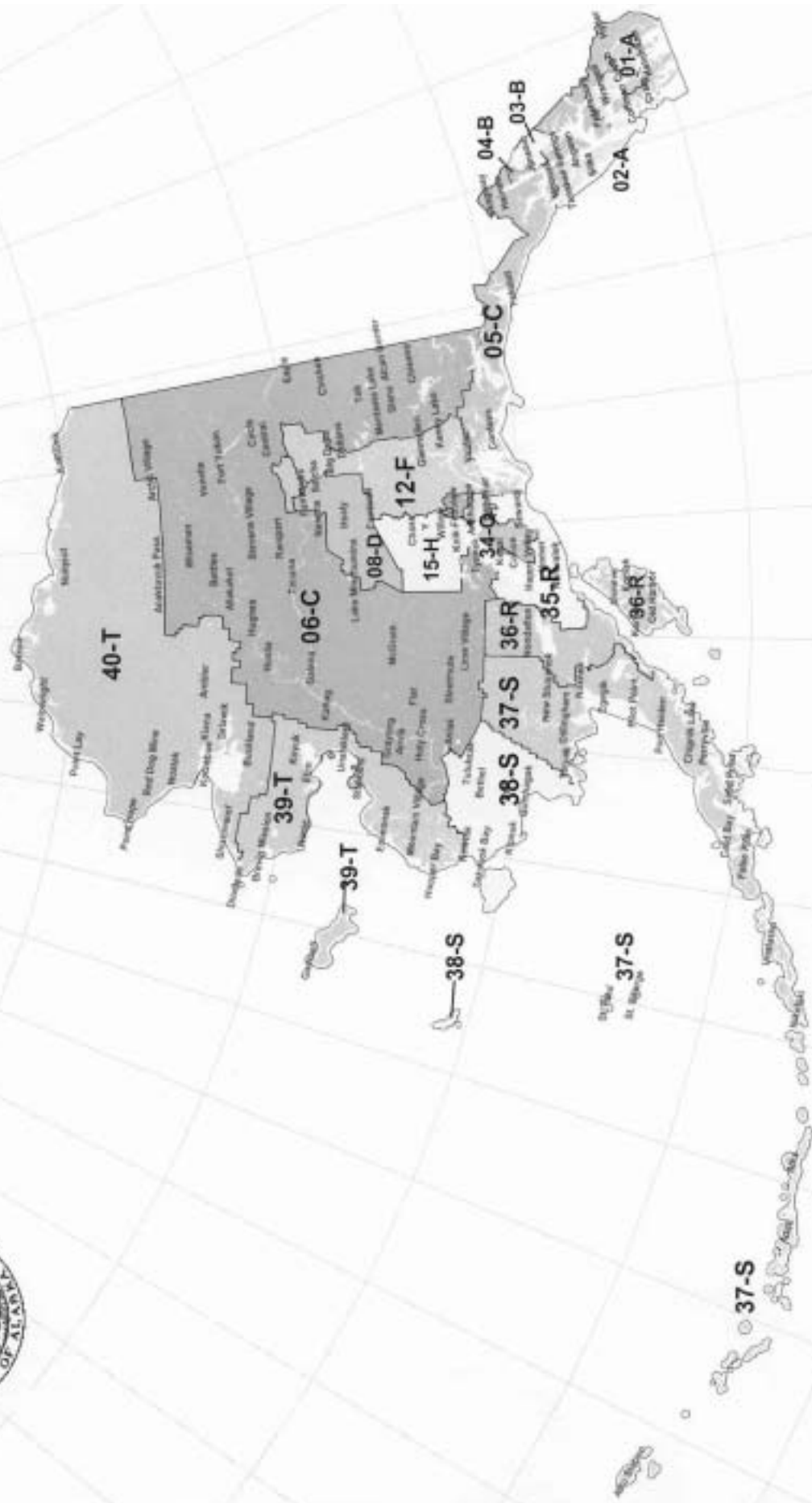
JUNEAU: (907) 465-3021 ANCHORAGE: (907) 522-8683 FAIRBANKS: (907) 451-2835 NOME: (907) 443-5285



State of Alaska - Division of Elections

Amended Final Redistricting Plan

April 25, 2002



House and Senate District Designations

Based on "Proclamation of Final Reapportionment and Redistricting" April 25, 2002

Senate District	House District	House District
A	1 Ketchikan	2 Sitka/Wrangell/Petersburg
B	3 Juneau/Downtown/Douglas	4 Juneau/Mendenhall Valley
C	5 Cordova/Southeast Islands	6 Interior Villages
D	7 Farmer's Loop/Steese Highway	8 Denali/University
E	9 City of Fairbanks	10 Fairbanks/Fort Wainwright
F	11 North Pole	12 Richardson/Glenn Highways
G	13 Greater Palmer	14 Greater Wasilla
H	15 Rural Mat-Su	16 Chugiak/Southern Mat-Su
I	17 Eagle River	18 Military
J	19 Muldoon	20 Mt. View/Wonder Park
K	21 Baxter Bog	22 University/Airport Heights
L	23 Downtown/Rogers Park	24 Midtown/Taku
M	25 East Spenard	26 Turnagain/Inlet View
N	27 Sand Lake	28 Bayshore/Klatt
O	29 Campbell/Independence Park	30 Lore/Abbott
P	31 Huffman/Ocean View	32 Chugach State Park
Q	33 Kenai/Soldotna	34 Rural Kenai
R	35 Homer/Seward	36 Kodiak
S	37 Bristol Bay/Aleutians	38 Bethel
T	39 Bering Straits	40 Arctic